## NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT. PROPRIETOR.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway .- SAM

NEW YORK THEATRE, opposite New York Hotel. FRENCH THEATRE. THE GRAND DUCHESS.

OLVMPIC THEATRE Broadway.-HUMPTY DUMPTY. MIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway. -THE WHITE FAWN.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 18th street. THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway. - BOSTON COMIQUE BALLET AND PANTOMINE TROUPE.

BANVARD'S OPERA HOUSE AND MUSEUM, Broadway and Thirtieth street.—UNGLE TOM'S CABIN. NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.-GYMNASTICS,

KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, 720 Broadway. - Songs, BOORNTEIOITIES, &c. - GRAND DUTCH "S."

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 585 Broadway.—ETHIO TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery .- Comit

BUTLER'S AMERICAN THEATRE, 472 Broadway.-BUNYAN HALL, Broadway and Fifteenth street.—THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC .- CONVERSATIONAL LECTURE.

MRS. P. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.-HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.-ETHIOPIAN

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.

New York, Tuesday, March 10, 1868.

TRIPLE SHEET

### THE NEWS.

EUROPE.

We have further intelligence by special cable telegrams of the British expedition into Abyssinia The situation looks more hopeful. Admiral Farragut had been tendered anoth

banquet in Naples. of a wide scope in the way of reform, religious, educational and industrial. The cable report of the Alabama claims debate is continued. The London police tampered with their knowledge of the Feniar plot for the Clerkenwell explosion so as to permit it to go on to its sad result. The Fenian prisoner lately on trial in Sligo, Ireland, have been removed the Legislative Body and the annual budget was submitted. Some "seditious" Fenians have been liberated in Ireland.

The Turkish Cabinet has been changed. An English gentleman has been appointed Secretary of Le gation to Mr. Burlingame.

#### CONGRESS.

In the Senate vesterday Mr. Vickers, of Maryland, offered a resolution referring his credentials to the Committee on the Judiciary to consider if Maryland has a republican form of government that will admi missioning a Senator of the United States.

Some debate ensued, when Mr. Sumner withdrew his motion and Mr. Vickers was sworn. The resolu tion to restore Alabama to representation was called troduced a new Financial bill which was laid on the table. The Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill was taken up and amended.

In the House, bills were offered under the Monday call of States for reference only, declaring that the national debt shall not be paid by the present generation, and to reduce the expenses of the navy and o the government. A resolution favoring the gradual substitution of greenbacks for interest bearing bonds was referred. The resolution relative to covering certain money by warrant into the Trea-Mr. Logan said that \$18,640,000 worth of can celled bonds was certified to as destroyed by the Secretary of the Treasury Printing Bureau, when, in fact, it was only blank cussion and the Committee on Retrenchment was instructed to investigate the matter. The Committee on Ways and Means reported a bill to exempt all manufactures from tax after May L except gas made from minerals, the product of distillations of crude petroleum, coal or other bituminous substances and wines and manufactures of tobacco. It was recom-

# THE LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate a bill authorizing railroads in 125th and other streets was reported. A bill relative to the collection and assessment of taxes upon corporations and joint stock associations was noticed. Bills extending the time for the organization of the New York Matnal Gaslight Company, authorizing an increase of its capital and authorizing the exchange of lands between the Commissioners of Charities and Correction and the Commissioners of Emigration, were ordered to a third reading.

In the Assembly bills were introduced to amend the charter of Brooklyn and for the construction of an iron corrugated railway in New York and Westchester counties. A resolution directing the presentation of testimonials to volunteers was tabled. Resolutions Inquiring into the expediency of making cruel and Inhuman treatment and wilful abandonment for two years a cause for divorce and also inquiring into the changes necessary for the usury laws were agreed to. Bills authorizing the United States to remove a portion of Erie Breakwater and to improve Graham and Van Cott avenues, Brooklyn, were advanced to a third reading. A bill to aid in the constructions of the Midland Railroad was reported and referred for consideration.

# THE CITY.

In the Board of Aldermen yesterday a long discussion arose on the subject of the Church street extension, in the course of which some points on the peculiarity of the proposed work were ventilated.

Collector Smythe, of this city, has received official information from the State and Treasury Departments that cholera is prevalent at St. Thomas, W. I. and Tangier, Morocco. Vessels from the former port are quarantined at St. John's, P. R., and those from Tangier, Centa, Tetuan and the Riff coast are held twenty-one days at Gibraltar. Seven days are im posed on vessels with even clear bills from other ports in Morocco:

A special Senate committee appointed at Albany is at present in this city holding its session in Metropolitan Hall inquiring into the contract system of cleaning the streets and avenues of the city. The contract is now held by Mr. James A. whiting. Against the manner in which he is carrying it out many complaints have been made. Mr. Whiting, Mayor Hoffman, John L. Brown, Shepherd E. Knapp and Jackwere yesterday examined. The committee meet again this morning at ten o'clock.

The assembly committee to investigate the affairs of the public health officer of this port was in session at the St. Nicholas Hotel yesterday. No charges whatever were presented against Dr. Swinbourne Some suggestions were offered relative to changes in the quarantine system, and the committee ad

A meeting of the bench and bar was held in the United States District Court yesterday, to take appro priate action in reference to the death of the late Daniel Lord. Suitable resolutions were adopted and pulogistic addresses made by members of the legal

sion, after which the meeting adjourned. On the complaint of Richard Schell Judge Barnard yesterday granted an injunction against the Board of Directors of the Eric Railway Company and its | may be expected not only to advocate the uni-

Executive Con meetings or transacting any business of the any while Frank Work is prohibited and re-ned by the order of Judge Balcom from attend-nch meetings, and also prohibiting the issue by the company of any new stock or conversion of bond

The case of the People against Richard Carey, Connell, at Bayard street and the Bowery, was or trial during the whole of vesterday in the Court of Over and Terminer, and will be resumed to-day. Judge Lott, in charging the Grand Jury in the Kings County Court of Oyer and Terminer yesterday

took occasion to remark that it had been rumored that justices, in imposing large fines for slight offences under the Revenue and other laws, had misappro priated such funds, and he urged the attention of the District Attorney to an investigation of the subject.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Our special telegrams from Mexico city are dated February 29. War was imminent in Sinaloa. General Ochoa had been denied admission to his seat in Congress and was again arrested. It was considered probable that the foreigners engaged in the plot to assassinate Juarez would be driven from the country. The trial of the participators is progressing. Our special telegrams from Cuba by the Gulf cable

state that a Spanish man-of-war at St. Thomas was about to seize the American ship Alice Ball, even it her papers show her to be bound for New York. Captain General Lersundi was at Tritidad the recipi-

Charter elections came off yesterday in Augusta Bangor, Belfast and Biddeford, Maine. The demolected their candidates in Augusta and Bidde ford, and the republicans in the other two towns. A republican gain over last fall is reported in Bangor.

A woman has been arrested in Toronto charged with poisoning her husband and three children. One of the children has died and the rest are not expected An avalanche five or six miles in extent occurred

near the town of Cisco, Cal., on the Pacific Railroad recently. Six Chinamen were killed and seven locomotives were injured. In the Georgia Convention yesterday a resolution was adopted requiring voters on the ratification o

the new constitution to swear that they have no attempted to dissuade any one else from voting. choice for the next President and Vice President. In the South Carolina Convention yesterday an ordinance was adopted compelling all who vote fo the constitution to vote also for the regular nomi-

nees of the radical party. A number of negroes have been nominated for office.

The Louisiana Convention yesterday elected a Board of Managers and adjourned, subject to the call of a quorum.

In the election in Memphis, Tenn., on Saturday four colored persons were elected.

Mike McCoole has agreed to fight Allen two or

hree months after his great fight with Joe Coburn Heavy freshets are imminent throughout the West. The Missouri and Kaw rivers are rapidly rising.

### The Hon. "Ben Wade" as President Pro Tem

Rumor has it that there is some trouble among the republicans of Congress in regard to "Old Ben Wade," and the important question "What shall we do with him?" As President pro tem. of the Senate, from the present posture of things, he will become, with the removal of Andrew Johnson, President pro tem., or ad interim, of the United States-that is to say, for the remnant of Johnson's term. which expires on the 4th of March, 1869, Mr. Wade was put in his present position by the radicals of the Senate as a game of bluff, in view of the contingency of Johnson's impeachment and removal; but there is a little group of republican Senators who do not like the radical fanaticism and vagaries of Mr. Wade, and who dread accordingly his promotion to the White House. As President of the Senate he is comparatively harmless, but as President of the United States they fear that he will be that ugly customer, a bull in a china shop.

The Republican State Convention of Ohio

has proclaimed him the candidate of Ohio for the Vice Presidency on the republican ticket with General Grant. Indiana, in behalf of the republicans, quite as emphatically has put forward her favorite leader, Speaker Colfax, as the man of all men for the Vice Presidency. But if the heads of these two men are knocked together in the Chicago Convention they may that where, on nearly equal terms, there are several candidates in one of these party conventions for the same place, the chances are as uncertain as any one of so many tickets in one of the Hon. Ben Wood's lotteries, or as the chances of Hon. John Morrissey's fascinating but delusive game of faro or keno. Moreover, there are some republicans of a conservative cast who think that "Ben Wade" as President now, and as Vice President under the succession, would be too much of the old Ohio fanatic. It is hinted, therefore, that some compromise will probably be attempted of this sort-viz., the declination of Mr. Wade in favor of Speaker Colfax as the next man in the line of promotion to the White House with the removal of Andrew Johnson. and with the understanding that Colfax will turn over to Wade all his right, title and interest in the Chicago Convention as a candidate for the Vice Presidency on the regular ticket with Grant, Should this arrangement be agreed upon between the high contracting parties it is supposed that the Chicago Convention may be relied upon to lay "Old Ben" up in lavender on the same shelf with Seward, Fillmore, "Old Buck," "poor Pierce" and other fossils of the silurian epoch.

But the last October Ohio election, in cutting him out of a re-election to the Senate, has made, no doubt, a profound impression upon the mind of Mr. Wade in favor of that wise old maxim that "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." Hence he may decline to enter into any compact involving the surrender of the White House, as the successor ad interim of Andrew Johnson, for the uncertain chances of the lottery wheel of the Chicago Convention. What then? The question then recurs, how will Mr. Wade serve the purposes of the republican party in the place of Andrew Johnson? First of all he is cheek-byjowl with Wendell Phillips on negro suffrage and Southern negro supremacy. Phillips, therefore, may become the next Attorney General of the United States. Secondly, Mr. Wade goes the whole figure of George Francis Train and his colaborers, the strong-minded and long-winded women, in behalf of woman suffrage and women's rights. Accordingly, the Senate will do well to prepare itself, with the installation of "Old Ben" in the uncomfortable chair of "Andy Johnson," for the confirmation of Miss Lucy Stone or Mrs. Susan B. Anthony as Secretary of the Interior or Postmaster General, and for Fred Douglass and Downing, the oysterman, as ministers to Hayti and Liberia. In the next place, if we may credit the original reports of a certain speech delivered by "Old Ben Wade' some time ago in Kansas touching the money question and the rights of labor, he versal Western ultimatum of greenbacks to the bondholders, but equal rights in the matter of property, including a new division all around every Saturday afternoon.

Yet, again, we have heard that Mr. Wade is something of a Spiritualist, and that under a good medium he likes nothing better than a consultation with the ghost of Old John Brown on public affairs, and that he likewise adheres to the faith of the old time Massachusetts Puritans in the matter of witchcraft. It has been said of "Honest Old Abe" that occasionally, when inspired by good news, he would open his Cabinet council with the reading of an instructive lesson or two from "Joe Miller;" but "Old Ben," a more sombre and mysterious man, a sour and dreamy fanatic, when established in the White House, will be more apt to begin his official conferences with the exercises of a spiritual circle till the round table is supernaturally lifted to the ceiling and the closed piano begins to play the "New Jerusalem." There is nothing too radical or novel or grotesque to expect from "Old Ben Wade," this old line roundhead and abolitionist; this old hardshell Baptist, backwoodsman and Western stump orator; this queer compound of the leading mental peculiarities of Parson Brownlow, John Brown, Joe Smith, Lucy Stone, "Old Thad Stevens," Gerrit Smith and Andy Johnson.

From a President made up of such powerful elements we may surely look for some astonishing things. The danger is that he may run the administration into more serious blunders on the radical tack than have been committed by Mr. Johnson in opposition to the radicals. The more prudent and sagacious republicans in Congress, and especially in the Senate, have their apprehensions looking in this direction. They fear that "Old Ben Wade" may disclose his policy so frankly and so broadly as to upset the party machine at Chicago or in the progress of the Presidential campaign. We may accordingly anticipate some curious movements and deep intrigues and schemes at Washington, in the progress of Johnson's trial, to effect at the same time with his removal the dislodgement of "Old Ben Wade." Otherwise, in the change from Johnson to Wade the republican party will be out of the frying pan into the fire.

#### Superintendent Kennedy and the Purim Festival.

The order for the arrest of the maskers en gaged in the celebration of the Jewish festival Purim is the latest attempt of Superintendent Kennedy to make a grand parade of authority. As too often happens with this functionary, power is again used, not to any good purpose, but only in making a pitiful invasion upon private and peaceful pleasures. From the statements given in another column it will be seen that some Jewish citizen had had an understanding with the authorities-as far as certain of the authorities can be said to understand anything-and the outrage was committed in violation of permission given. This act is characterized by that small spirit and pitifully ingenious effort to seem efficient that appears to distinguish all the acts of the Superintendent.

The Purim festival is a religious rite. One day rather more than two thousand years ago the heart of Ahasuerus "was merry with wine." This Ahasuerus "reigned from India even unto Ethiopia, over a hundred and seven and twenty provinces;" and who should dispute the royal pleasure of such a mighty fellow, especially when the fiery spirit of the grape was filling his brain with whim and extravagance? Nobody should have done it: but Vashti did. Vashti was the Queenand she may have been tipsy, too. She was a beauty, and the King sent for her to come into his presence "that the people and the her charms. She stood upon her prerogative and refused to go-positively, obstinately, contumaciously, foolishly refused. "Therefore was the King very wroth, and his anger burned in him;" and Shushan, the palace, was a stormy place. His Majesty sent for his constitutional advisers, the wise men of his Cabinet, "which knew the times," and, asking their opinions on this unprecedented event, they were found to be of one mind, and that mind was that the King must assert the dignity of his position, and that the safety of all the provinces required an example-required a decree of divorce. So Vashti was sent home

to her father. Then the question was as to her successor, and the new Queen was chosen on a pretty principle. Officers were appointed "in all the provinces of the kingdom, that they might gather together all the fair young virgins;" and from such an assemblage the King was to choose the one he liked best of all. His choice fell upon Esther, the niece of Mordecal the Jew: but it was not known who she was, "and the King loved Esther above all the women, and set the royal crown upon her head." In those same days the Jews were having a hard time of it generally, and the King's ministers and his absurd old superintendents of police were doing what they might in the way of little persecutions, and had arranged the destruction generally of all the sons of Abraham in the realm. But Esther, the favored woman, saved her race by a little plot of her own, and it fell out that the Jews, instead of being destroyed, "smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword," and then rested and made the time one of "feasting and gladness." And as their enemies "had cast Pur-that is, the lot-to consume them and to destroy them," therefore "they called those days Purim, after the name of Pur;" and they were made days to "be remembered and kept throughout every generation:" days of "feasting and joy and of sending portions one to another and gifts to the

In keeping this festival now in our great free city the Jews were mindful of the fact that we have a law forbidding masquerading in public: but they could not fall to notice that this law had become a dead letter. Several societies of even foreign nationality have annual masked balls and no one interferes, and it was understood that in the celebration of this social festival and in passing from house to house in carriages the maskers would not be disturbed. But this understanding was violated, and the brilliant first policeman chose to revive an expired law against a class of our citizens least likely to abuse their privileges. Shall we never have done with this pitiful spirit at head-

# Reconstruction in the South-Trouble A

The total number of registered voters in the en unreconstructed Southern States, according to the latest published returns, reached, in round numbers, one million three hundred and thirty thousand. The total number who voted for conventions was, omitting Texas, seven hundred and six thousand, thus showing that the majority for calling the conventions was, in the aggregate, less than one hundred thousand and that the large number of nearly six hundred and twenty-four thousand refrained from voting at all. What proportion of this vote was composed of white and what of black it is difficult to determine; yet it is safe to aver that the conservative whites largely outnumbered the blacks. But this is not a question of essential importance. The grand point is that these figures show a reserve of some six hundred thousand conservative voters in the South who have not voted at all on political questions since the date of their registration, and that when that army go to the polls the radicals will be overwhelmingly

Here is food for the radicals to digest, and the sooner they set about it the better. Conceding the success of their candidates for the present Congress, their chances for carrying the South in the Presidential election next fall are far from certain. On the contrary, there is no doubt that if the conservative whites of the South bring out their strength and act in a conciliatory spirit toward the native blacks the latter will desert their white plunder-seeking radical allies and unite with that element in the midst of which they have been raised and are domiciliated and with which it is the natural tendency of their race to mingle and harmonize. This is the doctrine advocated by Wade Hampton and others among the sound est Southern statesmen, and that it is the true one for the interests of the South is as clear as the sun at noonday.

The radicals, therefore, are not yet out of the woods. They seem to be just entering the wilderness. As a prerequisite to re-entering the Union it is a matter of indifference whether they require the adoption of the new constitution by a majority of the whole number of voters registered or of the whole number of votes cast: for it is certain that from the bungling manner in which reconstruction has been treated in the case of Alabama, from the turmoil and confusion in Washington about impeachment, from the clamor of the New England manufacturers and capitalists for peaceful legislation and from other causes, there is a heap of trouble brewing in the radical ranks. The Northern moderate republicans are becoming disgusted with the imbecility and blundering perverse ness manifested by the radical leaders in Congress, and while we hear of hundreds of republicans leaving their party and joining the democratic, as is the case in New Hampshire, we hear of no democrats leaving their own and joining the republican ranks. With scarcely a majority of registered votes in either of the proscribed States and a sure majority in the aggregate against them, the radicals cannot afford to lose time in tumbling those States back into the Union by some means or other; for by delay they will not only lose the South, but alienate the North, increase the distraction among their own people and eventually be left with scarcely half a score of reliable States in the whole country with which to breast the Presidential

# England and the United States-The Ala-

storm next November.

hama Claims. The debate which took place a few nights ago in the House of Commons, and of which we have already published the substance in the HERALD, shows how England is gradually coming to her senses in regard to the depredations of the Alabama and other vessels. The speech of Mr. Lefevre was as withering an exposure of the conduct of the English government as was ever delivered by any American legislator or penned by any American journalist. Mr. Forster and Mr. Mill were equally just and scarcely less severe. The language of Lord Stanley and Mr. Gladstone was firm and decided in regard to one point-viz., the recognition of belligerent rights to the South; but their remarks, taken as a whole, revealed a disposition to adopt a wiser and juster policy. On the whole, it must be admitted, as we have said before, to have been a wise and temperate discussion. We are always glad to see our English cousins coming to their senses.

What will Mr. Seward do in the premises is a question which our English friends will naturally be asking themselves. What can he do? Mr. Seward, we fear, must no longer be taken into account. Events are marching rapidly with us, and there is every reason to believe that Mr. Seward will soon be under the necessity of retiring to his retreat at Auburn, there to reflect at leisure on the great drama in which he has played not an insignificant part. Ben Wade and his troop of strong-minded women will soon be masters of the situation; and then, unless we greatly mistake, this difficulty with Great Britain will assume a much more serious character. The men who have been bold and daring enough to proceed to the last extremity in domestic questions are little likely to halt or hesitate at the comparatively paltry difficulty of a foreign war. Having swallowed the camel there is but small chance that they will strain at the gnat. We are in the midst of a dangerous revolution; the Jacobins are in the ascendant, and, as all history shows, they are not the men to sacrifice place and power by adopting a cautious or temporizing policy. War with England, with France, with the world, will be welcome, if it only promise to prolong their lease of power.

It is for this reason more than for any other that we would advise Great Britain to get this Alabama difficulty off her hands at once. To the radicals, with Ben Wade as President, and his strong-minded women installed in office, a foreign war would be a Godsend. Our swords are yet sharp, and love of the stirring scenes of the battle field has not ceased to animate the breasts of thousands of our citizens. We fear no foe. We have not only crushed out a gigantic rebellion, but we have dismissed the French from Mexico; and the fierce democracy has but to be let loose to drive the English from Canada, to extinguish the new Dominion and (with the exception of entire North American Continent our own. names had been greater if they had perished | railroad and the arguments of the lobby for the

Our advice, therefore, is, let England pay down the money in time, and let France imitate her example.

Robert Dale Owen and the Spiritualist Mr. Robert Dale Owen has had an unsettled, weirdlike, ghostly sort of existence during the past few years, the causes of which are perplexing to the physiologists and reverend pastors, and may result in consequences unpleasant to the physical man in his own proper person. Voluntarily losing his foothold on terra firma, Mr. Owen has been attempting to float himself in a new and unsubstantial sphere, of a misty and will-o'-the-wisp formation alternately, not ranging sufficiently high for heaven, darkened occasionally by unwelcome messengers from the celestial antipode. and yet far removed from that limbo of purgation through the discipline of which, we are assured on respectable authority, a post mortem quiet may be attained by the exercise of friendly prayer and endurance of a considerable amount of pain. Mr. Owen, as it appears to us, manages to reach a certain point of elevation on his journey towards complete etherealization, and then lowers himself towards our earth, or, as Charles Dickens has it, "flops" down again to relate his experiences. He never allows himself to come squarely and firmly on the ground, however, but always manages to alight in some four story garret in Broadway, or at best on the floor of Dodworth Hall, where he is equally bewildered by the carnal presence of extraordinary admixtures of Spiritualism, Free Loveism and Woman's Rightsism, and mere flesh and blood, each inclining, coaxing, persuading and forcing him in this, that and the other direction, so that he is almost compelled to fly away again in order to get rid of the influences and try to find out how all such people will fare after death. Mr. Owen has, in fact, got among the Spiritualists, and undertaken a very unhealthy mission in endeavoring to analyze hereafter in their behalf and for their special

comfort. There is really no good cause why it should be so. Mr. Owen possesses a clear, sound mind, if he would only just preserve it in a sound, healthy body, by strict attention to the observance of the rules of hygiene and the use of plenty of exercise in the open air. This would effectually counteract all tendency to nervous eccentricities. Years ago Mr. Owen was in New York advocating the peculiar system of Fanny Wright, with the principles of woman's rights, in the columns of an evening newspaper. The incarnation of Fanny Wrightism appeared to sicken him; so, acting wisely and well, he took himself out to the great West. Here, under the influence of the pure air of the prairies and in view of nature in her solidity and grandeur, he immediately recuperated The men of Indiana sent him to Congress, and he arrived in Washington with his mind enlarged, well balanced, argumentative and in that excellent democratic training which kept him agreeably before the public from the year 1843 to 1847.

President Pierce took him up in 1853 and

sent him as American Chargé d'Affaires to Naples, and here, as his own relation at Dodworth Hall last Sunday, and the publication "Footfalls on the Boundaries of Another World," plainly prove, his real troubles com menced. With the fire of Vesuvius and the facile descensus of its crater right before him. the threatened fires, and penances and fastings, anathemas and processions and decretals of the Church in Naples around him, the murmuring of the infant democracy of Italy in his ears, the yellow moon of the glorious bay right over his head and the tidal action of the Mediterranean at his feet, Mr. Owen became a little confused and began to imagine that he was on a very unsubstantial footing here on earth. Our representative, in truth, got somewhat lunar. When in this frame of mind he was introduced, as he tells us himself, to a fair lady, a Russian, we believe, who "came over him" with a system which she termed "autographic writing"-whatever that means-and from "autographic writing" Mr. Owen has gone on step by step to "coincidences," "second sight," "spheres," "portals of the unknown world" and "spiritualism;" in truth, to ghosts, and ghosts sufficient in number to affright whole nurseries of children, other than "Young Americans," in any land. He thinks that people come back to visit us after we have seen them to their last earthly homes, and asserts that it forms a very "beautiful" pursuit to investigate the correctness, or otherwise, of the assertion. In our opinion the investigation would be just as profitable as the enterprise of the man who purchased a raven to see if it

would live a hundred years, as he was told. This Russian or Italian "autographic writer" has a good deal to answer for in Mr. Owen's case. If she has already departed this life the gentleman should have an interview with her spirit by all means-the first introduction at the Russian Minister's lodgings will serve-and find out the true state of facts from her. In the meantime we would advise him to a course of Russian baths, followed by immediate runs in the Central Park. This will likely cure him. Should it fail he must attach himself as an acolyte to the train of some Chinese Tannist priest chaplain in the Burlingame mission, who will perfect him in the mysteries of "ancestral worship" and show him plainly how a living man may become the veriest slave of the dead. Should Mr. Owen neglect both remedies and "stick" to Dodworth Hall, he must surely recollect the fate of the poor tailor in Newark.

#### Our American Girondists-What Will They Do or What Will Become of Them?

The Girondists of the French Revolution, of whom we may mention Vergniaud, Gensonné, Gaudet, Brissot, Isnard Lanjuinais, Condorcet, were the best, the bravest, the most eloquent and the most virtuous men whom the revolution produced. Their conduct and their fate were pregnant with lessons to all future generations. Their manly instincts rebelled against the extreme measures adopted against the King. But the revolutionary current was too strong to be resisted with safety. Fearful for themselves, they yielded to the popular torrent and voted for the death of the unhappy monarch. This vote at once ruined their influence and sealed their fate. Twenty-two of them soon after perished on the scaffold; nor was the vengeance of their enemies satisfied Mexico, whose time is coming) to make the until Madame Roland shared their fate. Their

earlier. We, too, have our Girondists. Anthony, Fessenden, Howe, Norton, Ross, Sherman, Sprague, Trumbull, Van Winkle, Willey, Williams, Morgan—these are the men who are now attempting to moderate the strife. They have played the part of the Girondists so far. It remains to be seen how the, will play it out. will they learn from the past and remain true to their nobler instincts, or will they yield and full like their great predecessors?

#### The Two Presidents.

It is not strate ae if the people sometimes get their ideas of right and wrong sadly mixedif the muddle of politic. and law so turns their thoughts topsyturvy that such words as virtue and vice, guilt and innocen, e have no satisfactorily distinctive meanings. He now is before the country a strange contrast in the respective positions of two well known men. The President of the United States is on his trial for grave offences against the law, and the President of the Confederate States goes free. Had the confederacy triumphed, had New York been burned instead of Charleston, had the Northern people been put down and the Congress that sat at Richmond been declared the Congress of the country, we might have expected such a spectacle. then have expected that Mr. Davis would be not only free but honored, as he is by the very men who are now pushing forward the trial of the President of the Northern people, and that this latter would be covered with all the contumely of epithet and be brought up for trial; but who could have anticipated that such a spectacle would follow the triumph of the armies of the North? Mr. Davis was the Moloch of the struggle, as was supposed, and he cannot be tried. The Chief Justice is never ready, nothing is ever ready, and the culprit is at large meanwhile on a bail bond signed by radical leaders. And the same men, the same radical ranters, cannot find terms fierce enough to hound on the trial of the President of the United States. Strange that one man's offences-offences that the people cannot seeshould seem so great to the radicals! Strange that the other man's offences-offences that the people can never shut from their eyesshould seem so little to the same radicals! It would be stranger than all, however, if a party so little in sympathy with popular views should long have the confidence of the country.

#### The Erie Railway and the Courts.

On the 3d day of March, on the application of the Attorney General of the State of New York, Judge Barnard, of the Supreme Court, granted an injunction against the Eric Railway Company and its directors, enjoining and restraining them from converting any bonds of the company or other securities into stock, or from issuing any additional stock whatsoever and especially enjoining and restraining Daniel Drew from selling or in any way disposing of any Erie Railway stock or certificates of stock that might be or come into his possession until he shall have restored to the company certain shares obtained by him as security for loans or in exchange for stock of other roads. The application of the Attorney General of the State was based upon the complaint and affidavit of Frank Work, one of the directors of the Erie Railway, setting forth alleged transactions prejudicial to the rights and interests of the stockholders of that company.

It appears that the defendants in these proceedings have hunted up another Justice of the Supreme Court in the rural districts-probably somewhere on the line of the Eric Railwaywho has been prevailed upon to issue an order which conflicts with and seeks to nullify Judge Barnard's injunction, and to deprive the stockholders of the benefit of the protection sought to be extended to them by the Attorney General of the State. This country Judge steps in and issues a counter injunction against the complaining director, Work, the object being as we have said, to embarrass the pending proceedings and to interfere in a remarkable and apparently unwarrantable manner in the case already before the Supreme Court. While there may be legal warrant for the course pursued by the defendants in this matter and for the action of their judicial friend from the rural districts, it is nevertheless a most singular proceeding, and one which, however reconcilable with Wall street ethics, appears to be in conflict with all our preconceived ideas of professional courtesy and public justice.

The case comes up again to-day before

Judge Barnard, and he will no doubt properly rebuke the extraordinary and apparently unjustifiable intermeddling with the case on the part of a Justice of the Supreme Court outside this judicial district, and reaffirm his former decision, vacating the order subsequently obtained. Meantime, on the complaint of Richard Schell, Judge Barnard yesterday granted an injunction to restrain the directors of the Erie Railway from holding any meeting for the transaction of business so long as Frank Work is prohibited from acting as a director of the said company, such prohibition being a portion of the order of the country Judge. There are other features of the case of interest to the stockholders, to which it is unnecessary to allude. The whole affair presents a striking illustration of the manner in which the business of railroad stock speculation is carried on, and the fullest exposure of all the facts in the case is desirable. For some years the Erie Railway has been in the hands of jobbers and speculators, and the bona fide stockholders have been made the victims of the tricks of the manipulators on Wall street. The people would now like to know something about the management of the company, and as the money of the State has been invested in the road the desire is not unreasonable. It is to be hoped that Judge Barnard and the Attorney General will persevere in their efforts to protect the stockholders, and will not be driven from. the contest by sharp lawyers or intermeddling

# The Streets and the Senate Committee.

The Committee on Cities of the State Senate are at present in this city making an investigation into the condition of the streets of New York and the working of the contract system for street cleaning. Yesterday they examined Mayor Hoffman, and if they obtain no better information from other witnesses than they managed to squeeze out of that member of the street commission they had better at once settle their little bills at the Metropolitan Hotel, return to Albany and devote their time to the several propositions for a Broadway